

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1           1. A contact pad for a circuit board, the contact  
2 pad comprising:  
3           a central portion; and  
4           a plurality of spokes extending from the central  
5 portion.

1           2. The contact pad of claim 1, wherein the central  
2 portion is substantially circular.

1           3. The contact pad of claim 1, wherein each of the  
2 plurality of spokes is substantially rectangular in  
3 shape.

1           4. The contact pad of claim 1, wherein one of the  
2 plurality of spokes is electrically connected to a  
3 metallic trace on the circuit board.

1           5. The contact pad of claim 1, wherein the circuit  
2 board is a printed circuit board.

1           6. The contact pad of claim 1, wherein there are  
2 four spokes extending radially outwardly from the  
3 substantially circular portion.

1           7. The contact pad of claim 1, wherein the plurality  
2 of spokes are substantially evenly spaced around the  
3 substantially circular portion.

1           8. The contact pad of claim 1, further comprising a  
2 solder mask at outer tips of the spokes.

1           9. The contact pad of claim 1, wherein contact pad  
2 is made of a conductive material.

1           10. A contact pad for a circuit board, the contact  
2 pad comprising:

3           a central portion; and

4           means extending from the central portion for  
5 providing additional surface area of the contact pad to  
6 which a solder ball may attach.

1           11. The contact pad of claim 10, wherein the  
2 central portion includes an opening in a center thereof.

3           12. A contact pad for a circuit board, the contact  
4 pad comprising:

5           a substantially circular portion; and

6           means extending from the substantially circular  
portion for providing additional surface area of the  
contact pad to which a solder ball may attach.

1           13. The contact pad of claim 12, wherein the  
2 substantially circular portion includes an opening in a  
3 center thereof.

1           14. A circuit board, comprising:

2           a nonconductive substrate;

3 a plurality of electrically conductive contact pads,  
4 each of the contact pads having a central portion; and a  
5 plurality of spokes extending from the central portion;  
6 and

7 an electrically conductive trace interconnecting the  
8 contact pads.

1 15. The circuit board of claim 14, wherein the  
2 central portion is substantially circular.

3 16. The circuit board of claim 14, wherein each of  
4 the plurality of spokes is substantially rectangular in  
5 shape.

6 17. The circuit board of claim 14, wherein one of  
7 the plurality of spokes is electrically connected to the  
8 trace on the circuit board.

1 18. The circuit board of claim 14, wherein the  
2 circuit board is a printed circuit board.

3 19. The circuit board of claim 14, wherein each of  
4 the contact pads has four spokes extending radially  
5 outwardly from the substantially circular portion.

6 20. The circuit board of claim 14, wherein on at  
7 least one of the contact pads, the plurality of spokes  
8 are substantially evenly spaced around the substantially  
9 circular portion.

1           21. A contact pad for a circuit board, the contact  
2 pad comprising a conductive material arranged in a shape  
3 having a perimeter that is at least 5% longer in length  
4 than a circumference of a circle having a diameter that  
5 is equal to a distance between the two points on the  
6 perimeter of the contact pad that are farthest away from  
7 each other.

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